

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of claims with a status identifier in parenthesis. Claims 2-5, 7-10 and 12-18 have been canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter therein. Some of the subject matter of these claims has been incorporated into claims 1, 6 and 11.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A connection device comprising:
one or more non-dedicated, processing units; and
an optical switch for receiving Ultra-Long Haul (ULR) optical signals and for connecting at least one of the units to one or more of the received signals based on a characteristic of each signal,
wherein the at least one unit is selected from the group consisting of a gigabit Ethernet unit, a re-shape and re-amplify without retiming unit (“2R unit”), a re-shape and re-amplify with retiming unit (“3R unit”), a Simple Data Link (SDL) unit and a SONET/SDH unit.
2. (Canceled).
3. (Canceled).
4. (Canceled).
5. (Canceled).
6. (Currently Amended) A router comprising:
one or more non-dedicated, processing units; and
an optical switch for receiving Ultra-Long Haul (ULR) optical signals and for connecting at least one of the units to one or more of the received signals based on a characteristic of each signal,

wherein the at least one unit is selected from the group consisting of a gigabit Ethernet unit, a 2R unit, a 3R unit, a SDL unit and a SONET/SDH unit.

7. (Canceled).
8. (Canceled).
9. (Canceled).
10. (Canceled).
11. (Currently Amended) A method for providing an optical, service-enabled connection comprising:

receiving Ultra-Long Haul (ULR) optical signals; and

connecting at least one of a number of non-dedicated, processing units to one or more of the received optical signals based on a characteristic of each signal,

wherein the at least one unit is selected from the group consisting of a gigabit Ethernet unit, a 2R unit, a 3R unit, a SDL unit and a SONET/SDH unit.

12. (Canceled).
13. (Canceled).
14. (Canceled).
15. (Canceled).
16. (Canceled).
17. (Canceled).
18. (Canceled).